

## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

P.O. Box 45201, Olympia, Washington 98504-5201

## ITEIP CLARIFICATION MEMO 06-001

**TO:** Infant Toddler Early Intervention Program (ITEIP) Contractors

Family Resources Coordinators (FRCs)

County Interagency Coordinating Council Chairs State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC)

**School Districts** 

Neurodevelopmental Centers Developmental Disability Centers

cc: Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) Office Chiefs

DDD Regional Administrators DDD Field Service Administrators

Sue Poltl, DDD Compliance and Monitoring Unit Manager

**FROM:** Sandy L. Morris, Program Director

Infant Toddler Early Intervention Program (ITEIP)

**SUBJECT:** Clarification of IDEA 2004 Reauthorization requirement related to

children who are homeless.

**PURPOSE:** Clarification of federal expectations related to **finding and/or serving** 

infants, toddlers, and their families who are homeless.

**BACKGROUND:** IDEA, (Part C and B) and the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education

Assistance Improvement Act are two federal laws that address the

needs of children and youth in homeless situations.

WHAT'S NEW, CHANGED, OR

**CLARIFIED:** 

IDEA now incorporates the McKinney definition of homeless children.

Also, the Child Find obligations of IDEA for early intervention programs and school districts have been expressly extended to

homeless children.





**DEFINITIONS:** 

The definition of homeless, per the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 2001 – Title X, Part C of the No Child Left Behind Act – Sec 725

- (A) means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and,
- (B) includes -
  - (i) children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals; or are awaiting foster care placement
  - (ii) children and youths who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designated for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings
  - (iii) children and youth who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus train stations, or similar settings; and
  - (iv) migratory children who qualify as homeless for the purposes of this subtitle because the children are living in circumstances described in clauses (i) through (iii).

**ACTION:** 

Early intervention local lead agencies and County Interagency Coordinating Councils should work with local community partners on local Child Find outreach activities that include this focused effort to reach homeless children and their families.

RELATED REFERENCES:

The National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE): http://www.serve.org/nche/downloads/briefs/idea.pdf.

**Education News:** 

http://www.educationnews.org/education-rights-of-homeless-

children.htm.

McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act:

http://www.ed.gov/programs/homeless/guidance.pdf.

IDEA Reauthorization:

http://www.copyright.gov/legislation/pl108-446.pdf.

**ATTACHMENT(S):** None

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